

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-8 are pending in this application. By this amendment, Claims 1, 3, 4 and 5 are amended; and no claims are canceled or added herewith. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this amendment.

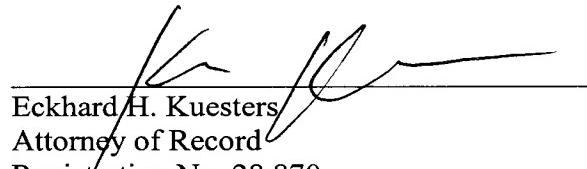
In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph; and Claims 3-4 and 6-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. With respect to the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraph, Claims 1, 3, 4 and 5 are amended by the present amendment. Specifically, Claims 1, 3, 4 and 5 are amended to recite plural plate reactant-gas supplying separators provided between the plurality of unit cells, each separator having, in its one surface that contacts the fuel electrode of one adjacent unit cell, fuel-gas supplying passages for supplying fuel gas to the fuel electrode, and having, in its opposite surface that contacts the oxidizer electrode of another adjacent unit cell, oxidizer-gas supplying passages for supplying oxidizer gas to the oxidizer electrode. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112 is respectfully requested.

Consequently, for the reasons discussed in detail above, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

  
Eckhard H. Kuesters  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 28,870

Kevin M. McKinley  
Registration No. 43,794

Customer Number  
**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 08/07)

I:\ATTY\KMM\PROSECUTION WORK\246446\246446US-AM.DOC